

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows.

On page 18, please replace the first full paragraph, which begins on line 4 with "Specific forward" with the following amended paragraph:

Specific forward (STGROF1) and reverse primers (STGROR2) were designed to be capable of amplifying *groEL2* gene fragment in all *Streptomyces* species. *S. lividans* (GenBank No. X95971) and *S. albus* (GenBank No. M76658), whose full-length nucleotide sequences of *groEL2* gene were already sequenced for other purposes, and *T. paurometabola* (GenBank No. AF35257 AF352578), which belongs to *Tsukamurella* species closely related to *Streptomyces* species in a phylogenetic tree, were subjected to sequencing analysis, and forward primer STGROF1 (5'-CCATGCCAAGGAGAT CGAGCT-3': SEQ ID NO: 1) and reverse primer STGROR2 (5'-TGAAGGTGCCRCGGATCTTGTT-3': SEQ ID NO: 2) that are capable of specifically amplifying all *Streptomyces* species were prepared therefrom (Fig. 1). The primer pair of STGROF1 and STGROR2 is new which has not been used previously for amplifying *Streptomyces* species.